



FC
3617.1
D48
Bell

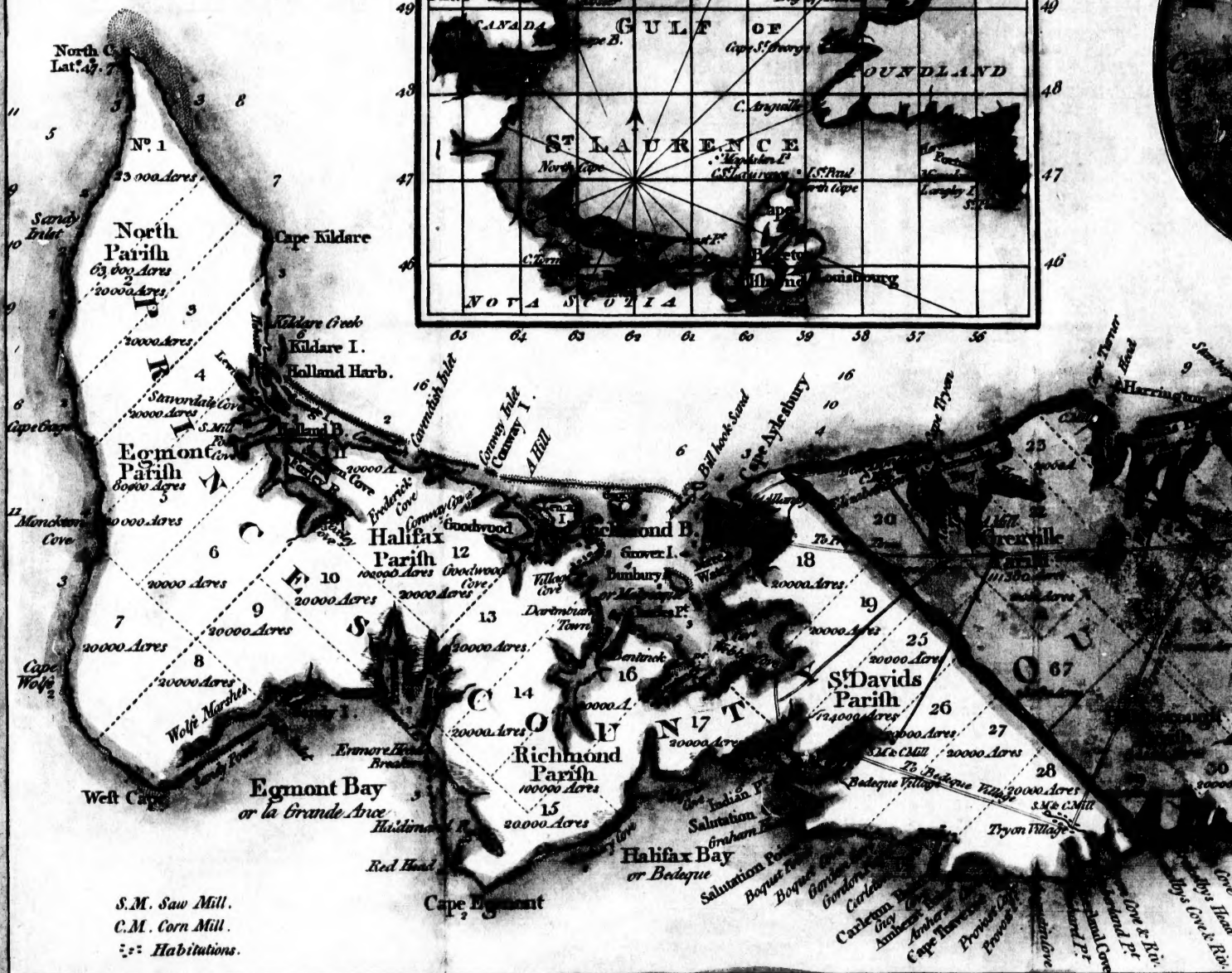
RALPH PICKARD BELL LIBRARY

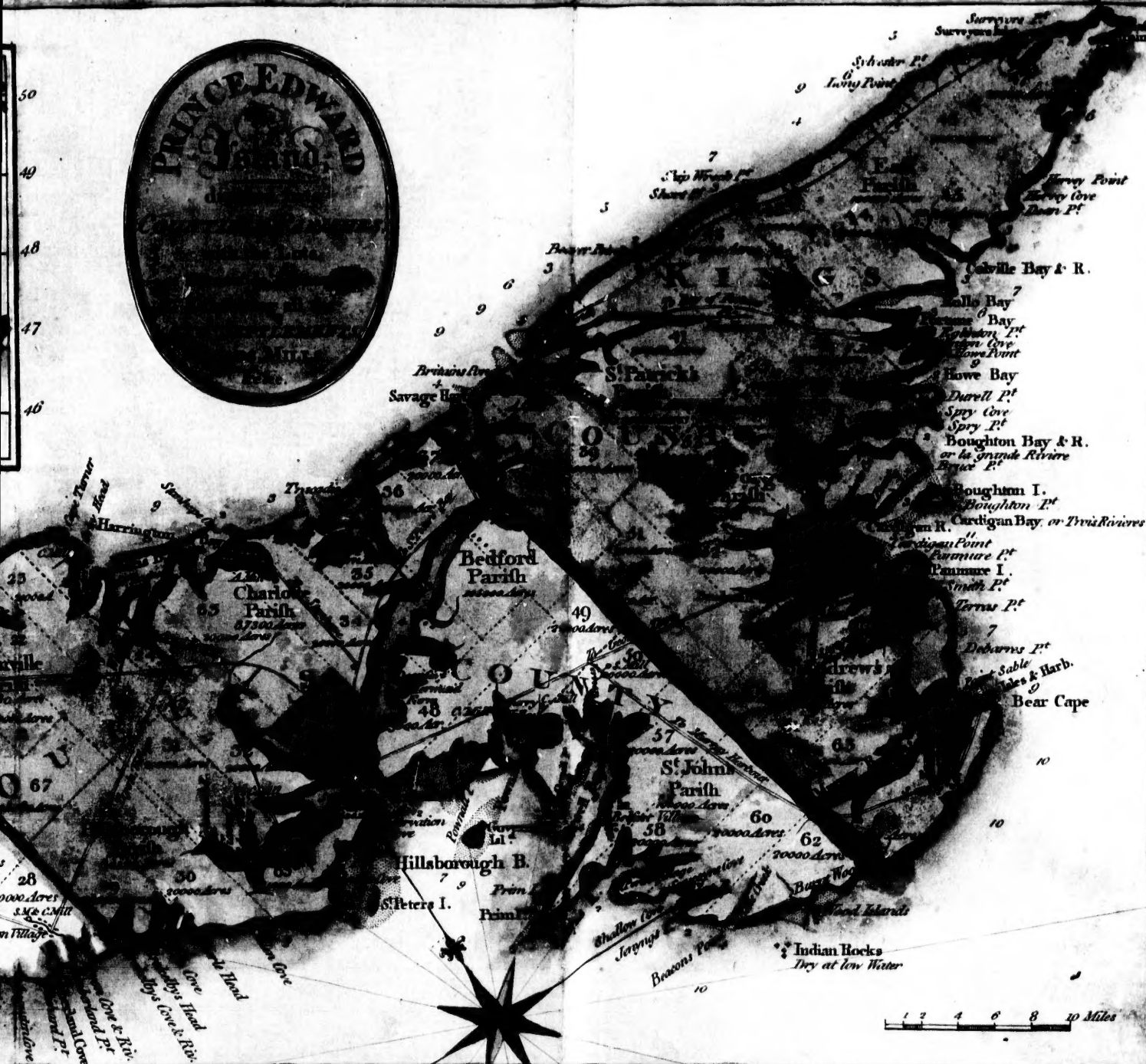
0265923

22

Charlotte Town Com. & Pasture lots ^{Acres} 7300
 George Town D^o & D^o 4000
 Prince Town D^o & D^o 4000

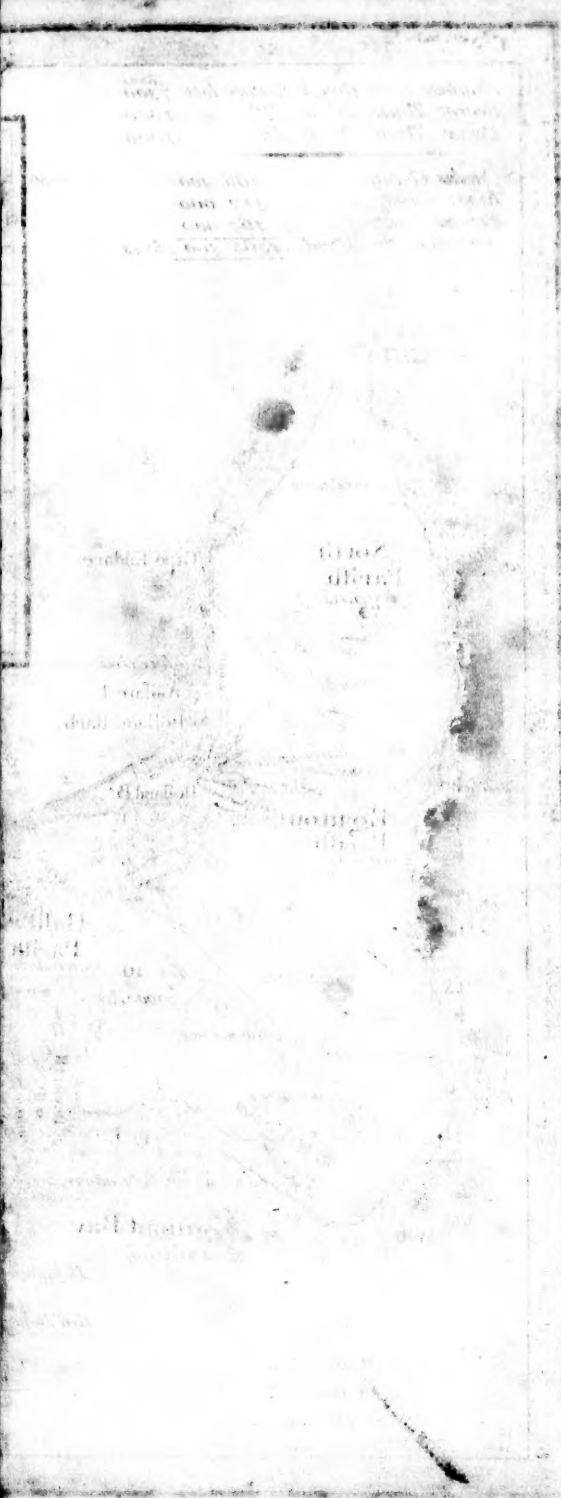
Queens County 486 400
 Kings County 412 000
 Princes County 467 000
 Contents of the Island 1365 400 Acres





1811
 1812
 1813
 1814
 1815
 1816
 1817
 1818
 1819
 1820
 1821
 1822
 1823
 1824
 1825
 1826
 1827
 1828
 1829
 1830
 1831
 1832
 1833
 1834
 1835
 1836
 1837
 1838
 1839
 1840
 1841
 1842
 1843
 1844
 1845
 1846
 1847
 1848
 1849
 1850
 1851
 1852
 1853
 1854
 1855
 1856
 1857
 1858
 1859
 1860
 1861
 1862
 1863
 1864
 1865
 1866
 1867
 1868
 1869
 1870
 1871
 1872
 1873
 1874
 1875
 1876
 1877
 1878
 1879
 1880
 1881
 1882
 1883
 1884
 1885
 1886
 1887
 1888
 1889
 1890
 1891
 1892
 1893
 1894
 1895
 1896
 1897
 1898
 1899
 1900

1811
 1812
 1813
 1814
 1815
 1816
 1817
 1818
 1819
 1820
 1821
 1822
 1823
 1824
 1825
 1826
 1827
 1828
 1829
 1830
 1831
 1832
 1833
 1834
 1835
 1836
 1837
 1838
 1839
 1840
 1841
 1842
 1843
 1844
 1845
 1846
 1847
 1848
 1849
 1850
 1851
 1852
 1853
 1854
 1855
 1856
 1857
 1858
 1859
 1860
 1861
 1862
 1863
 1864
 1865
 1866
 1867
 1868
 1869
 1870
 1871
 1872
 1873
 1874
 1875
 1876
 1877
 1878
 1879
 1880
 1881
 1882
 1883
 1884
 1885
 1886
 1887
 1888
 1889
 1890
 1891
 1892
 1893
 1894
 1895
 1896
 1897
 1898
 1899
 1900



Cape
 River
 pt

R.

R.

River

Cape

10 Miles

A
DESCRIPTION
OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,
IN THE
GULF OF ST. LAURENCE,
NORTH AMERICA;
WITH
A MAP OF THE ISLAND,
AND A FEW
CURSORY OBSERVATIONS
RESPECTING THE
CLIMATE, NATURAL PRODUCTIONS, AND ADVAN-
TAGES OF ITS SITUATION,
IN REGARD TO
AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE;
TOGETHER WITH
Some Remarks, as Instructions to new Settlers.

BY A
PERSON MANY YEARS RESIDENT THERE.

LONDON:
PRINTED AND SOLD BY ROBERT ASHEY AND CO. NO. 4, LOMBARD-STREET;
AND W. WINCHESTER AND SON, NO. 61, STRAND.

[Entered at Stationers-Hall.]

1805.

THERE being but a very short and imperfect account of **PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND** in any of the present Geographical Publications, it is presumed this Description (which has been honoured with the approbation of the Governor, **EDMUND FANNING, Esq.**) will be acceptable to the Proprietors of Lands therein, who reside in Great-Britain, as it will enable them to give every necessary information to those whom they wish to send out as Settlers, and also contribute to make the Island more generally known.

The following Testimony, from the Officers of a British American Corps stationed in the Island of St. John, (now called Prince Edward Island,) at the close of the American War, they being wholly disinterested and perfectly well acquainted with the different American States, is at once the most unequivocal, as well as the least to be suspected evidence that can possibly be given of the National advantages, and superior excellence, of that truly valuable and delightful Island.

EXTRACT from the New York Royal Gazette, March 5, 1783.

ADDRESSED to such Loyalists who either have already left, or who hereafter may leave their respective Countries in search of other Habitations.

We the subscribers (your countrymen and fellow sufferers) hearing that several families have already arrived in Nova Scotia from New York, and that many others intend coming to some of these northern colonies next spring, think it our duty to point out this island to you as the most eligible country for you to repair to, of any we know between this and New Jersey. The soil is good, it is well wooded, and free from rocks. The climate so good that fevers and agues are unknown; water every where excellent. The harbours spacious, numerous and safe. The rivers, bays, lakes, and coasts, abounding with a great variety of shell and almost all other sorts of fish, and good in their kinds. The government is mild. But very few taxes; these very light, and raised solely for the benefit of the island. There is room for tens of thousands, and lands in the finest situations, on harbours, navigable rivers, and bays, to be had exceedingly reasonable. Cattle are plenty. Witness the droves which have been this year taken to Halifax market. Before we came here, we were told, as perhaps you may be, the

worst things possible of the country ; such as that the people were starving ; we should get nothing to eat ; and should ourselves be eaten by insects ; and much more, equally groundless, for we have found the reverse to be the truth ; therefore do not attend to such reports, but come and see, and depend on the evidence of your own senses. You will not imagine us to be interested in the advice we here give you, or in the character of the place, as we may be ordered away to-morrow ; be assured of the contrary, what we have said is intended purely for your good, and if you attend to it we shall hereafter receive your thanks.

In the mean time, believe us, sincerely,

Your friends, &c.

S. Hayden, Captain commanding the King's Rangers.

Edward Mainwaring, Captain King's Rangers,

John Throckmorton, Lieutenant King's Rangers.

John Robins, Ensign King's Rangers.

Joseph Beers, Ensign King's Rangers.

Alexander Smyth, Adjutant King's Rangers

Lewis Davis, Surgeon King's Rangers.

Island St. John, Gulph of St. Laurence,

November 30, 1782.

Len
Brea

S
Nor
the S
widt
about
Low
poin

R
nume
place
flowi
The
Eliot
are la
Ellis,
of 30
and t
for v
Rich
Colvi
age f
di

fog i
the m
the
their
Spring
mer i
the A
sets i
at wh
over,
stead
snow-
boiste

A
DESCRIPTION
OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

SITUATION AND EXTENT.

	Miles.		
Length	120	} Between	{ 61 and 64 West Longitude. 46 and 47 North Latitude.
Breadth	30		

Situation]—IT lies in the Gulf of Saint Laurence, North America, and is separated from Nova Scotia, on the South, by a channel from three to six leagues in width. It is distant from Cape Breton, on the East, about fifteen leagues; and has New Brunswick and Lower Canada on the North-West, distant, to different points, from eight to twenty leagues.

Rivers and Bays.]—The Island is intersected with numerous bays and rivers; so that there are very few places at a greater distance than six miles from the flowing of the tide, and none above eight miles. The principal rivers are those called Hillsborough, Eliot, York, Cardigan, Brudenell, and Montagu, which are large enough to admit ships of the line. Dunk, Ellis, Vernon, and Murray rivers, will contain vessels of 300 tons burthen, by taking advantage of the tide; and there are many other rivers which are navigable for vessels of 100 tons burthen. Pownall, Orwell, Richmond, Grenville, Harris, Bedford, Saint Peter's, Colville, and Cardigan bays, afford good and safe anchorage for vessels from 100 tons upwards.

Air and Climate.]—The air is remarkably clear; a fog is rarely to be seen. From the beginning to the middle of April, the ice in the rivers breaks up, the navigation is open, and the inhabitants begin their fishing, agriculture, and gardening. The Spring is very rapid, the degree of heat in Summer is much the same as in England, but more regular: the Autumn is long and pleasant; the Winter in general sets in from the middle to the latter end of December, at which time the rivers and bays begin to be frozen over, and the snow to fall; after which it continues a steady frost, with a very clear air, with intervals of snow-falls; sometimes the snow is accompanied with boisterous winds; the snow in the woods is in general

from two to three feet deep on an average: the bracing cold in the winter is far more healthy, and, to many people, much more pleasant to bear, than the variety and sudden changes of the weather in England.

Face of the Country, and Natural Productions.]—The country is in general level, interspersed with gentle risings and gradual descents, there being but few large hills on the Island. It abounds with springs of the finest water; and as the rivers are very numerous, there are a great many excellent situations for mills. The far greater part of the Island is in its original wild and uncultivated state, covered with groves of various kinds of trees, among which are the following, the white and yellow pine, the hemlock, the red, white, and black spruce trees, two or three kinds of fir trees, and the larch tree; all of which are described by the inhabitants as soft wood trees: there are also oak, ash, elm, poplar, and cedar trees, but not in great plenty. The most prevailing hard wood trees are, birch, beech, and maple; of the former there are three kinds, the white, yellow, and black; the white or curled maple, and the black or sugar maple trees, and various other kinds of trees and shrubs. There are also wild cherries, gooseberries and currants; and the wild raspberries, strawberries, cranberries, and blueberries, are in some parts in great abundance, and very fine. A fruit in this Island, called the Indian Pear, is very delicious. There are a great many salt, and some inland marshes, from which considerable quantities of hay are cut.

Tame and Wild Fowl and Birds.]—Turkies, geese, ducks, and other poultry, are in plenty. Wild geese and brant, and various kinds of wild ducks, are in very large flocks in the Spring and Autumn, and flocks of wild pigeons in the Summer. A great many partridges, much larger and finer than in England; several sorts of plovers and snipes; the large grey and black eagle; different kinds of hawks and owls, the raven and the crow, and many birds of beautiful plumage, are found in the woods: various other kinds of birds appear, as the inhabitants extend their improvements; among which are the spring-bird, the robin, a blackbird, and the snowbird, and the beautiful humming-bird frequents the gardens.

Fish.]—The Fish of this Island are, cod, herrings, mackarel, salmon, salmon-trout, bass, haddock, sturgeon, perch, flounders, eels, smelts, tomy-cod, elwives, &c.

most of these in great abundance; also lobsters and oysters, which are easy to be obtained in many of the bays and rivers, and many kinds of shell and other fish, seals, and sea-cows.

Animals.]—There are black cattle, sheep, hogs and horses; some bears, wild cats, red, silver-grey, and black foxes, otters, martins, minks, musk-rats, and several kinds of squirrels; a great number of hares, which are grey in Summer, and white in Winter: no reptile is here to be met with, except a small harmless snake.

Soil and Produce.]—The soil is deep and light, but very fertile, if properly cultivated; in most places there are few or no stones to be seen, except on the shores, or by digging three or four feet for them. The land produces very good wheat, barley, oats, rye, peas, &c. and the various sorts of vegetables, as in England, such as potatoes, parsnips, carrots, cabbages, peas, the different kinds of beans, asparagus, cauliflowers, onions, cucumbers, melons, pumpkins, radishes, lettuces, celery, &c. &c. Hops grow exceedingly well, with little trouble. The English apple and cherry trees thrive very well, the garden gooseberry and currant trees yield very great crops. The land produces very good herbage, both for hay and pasturing of cattle, which thrive extremely well: the farmers, in general, have good stocks of black cattle, sheep, hogs, and horses: the sheep, for the most part, produce double, and scarcely a disease is ever known amongst them.

Government, Commerce, Towns, } and Military Strength. }

The Island is governed by a Lieutenant Governor, Council, and General Assembly, by whom the Laws are enacted: the Council consists of six or eight Members, who are appointed by the Governor, and, by the King's instruction, are to be Proprietors and principal Landholders. The General Assembly are eighteen in number, who are chosen by a majority of the Landholders, Leaseholders, and resident Housekeepers. All laws that respect property, are, by the King's instruction, to have a clause to suspend their operation till they have been sent to England and received the Royal Assent. The only tax paid here is a small duty on liquors imported, which is appropriated to the purpose of improving the roads, and other insular expences. The commerce is, at present, chiefly confined to the exportation of cattle and sheep, with other productions of the farm, which the inhabitants send to

Newfoundland, and of wheat, and other grain, which is sent to Halifax. Some persons have carried on a considerable trade in the cod and herring fisheries; the produce of which they send to Europe and the West Indies, and lumber, oil, skins, and furs, to England. The towns, laid down on the plan, or general survey of the Island, are Prince Town, Charlotte Town, and George Town; Charlotte Town, is the seat of Government, It is pleasantly situated, and regularly laid out. It has two forts and a block-house, and there are two companies of soldiers in the garrison in war time, and the militia of the Island for its defence against privateers.

Inhabitants, and general Employment.—The inhabitants, consist chiefly of emigrants from England, Ireland, Scotland, the States of America, and a few from Germany. There are also about six or seven hundred of the original Acadian French settlers, who occupy three villages, and live comfortably by farming and fishing. The generality of the inhabitants are employed in farming, except a very few mechanics, such as blacksmiths, carpenters, shipwrights, millwrights, coopers, shoe-makers, weavers, and masons; and some few in the cod and herring fisheries, as they can spare time from their farms, which may be carried on to great advantage, as the Island becomes more populous; the fishing-banks extending all along the north and north-east coasts of the Island, where a great number of vessels come from the States of America to catch fish. The farmers begin to plow and sow in April; they endeavour to get all their Summer wheat sowed before the 10th of May, but it is generally the latter end of that month, or the beginning of June, before they have all their oats, barley, pease, and potatoes, in the ground, as labourers are scarce; notwithstanding, as vegetation is quick, they begin to reap about the middle of August. Between seed-time and harvest, some are employed in burning the wood that has been cut in the winter for clearing new land, and some in cutting and making hay. The Autumn being long and pleasant, in the early part of it, some sow their Winter wheat, and afterwards get up their potatoes, which they raise in great quantities. In the Winter, some are employed in cutting the trees down for clearing new land; others in threshing their corn and getting home their hay for their cattle, which are mostly housed in the winter nights;

some in cutting and bringing home their fire-wood and making lumber, such as shingles, laths, hoops, staves, &c. and cutting and carrying pine-logs for the saw-mills. Some of the women are employed in spinning wool, and in knitting stockings and mitts; the flax, which they raise in Summer, is made into coarse cloth. Some of the families make upwards of two hundred yards of woollen and linen cloth in a year; and many families make two or three hundred weight of sugar, in the early part of the Spring, before the snow is thawed in the woods, from the sap of the maple trees; they likewise make very good butter and cheese, and raise as much poultry as they choose to keep.

Religion.]—There are a few persons who attend the Established Church once in a week; the far greater part are Dissenters, of one description or other; but as they have but few religious meetings, and not any ministers, their sabbath-days are generally filled up with looking over their past week's industry, and in visiting their neighbours. When any dissenting minister has happened to visit the Island from the Continent, many of the inhabitants have attended, with an apparent desire to be instructed. The native French, and Highland Scotch, are Roman Catholics, who meet regularly for worship every sabbath-day, and have a priest or two who reside among them.

General Remarks.]—This Island, which possesses so many natural advantages, such as a good soil, the finest water, a clear air, good harbours, and fine rivers, with abundance of fish and wild-fowl, and good timber for house and ship-building, and furniture, would, in all probability, have been in a much forwarder state of settlement, but for the following reasons. It was originally granted by Government in townships of twenty thousand acres each, and half townships to officers who had served in the army and navy, and others; the far greater part of whom have not taken the least pains to send settlers to their lands, but have apparently lain by to reap a future benefit from the active exertions of other proprietors: and a difference some time since prevailed between some of the Civil Officers of the Government and some of the Proprietors and Merchants, which has been very detrimental to the trade of the Island: Some persons, who are inclined to emigrate, give a preference to the Government and advanced state of settlement of the United States of America, it being much better

known. Yet there are but few places in the States of America, from the best accounts, that are equal in fertility and natural advantages to this Island: and the four diseases mentioned in Winterbotham's recent History of America, namely, nervous disorders, rheumatisms, intermitting fevers, and premature loss of teeth, as there so prevalent, by no means apply to this Island, it being extremely healthy; many of the native French evince the truth of this by their longevity. In the States of America, the lands, for a considerable distance from the sea coasts, are chiefly occupied; the back lands are raised much in price, and the distance from a market is a constant and unavoidable drawback on the active exertions of the industrious farmers: but there is no situation on this Island but where they may have easy access to navigable rivers, and a constant market for their produce at Newfoundland and Halifax: the West Indies and Europe will also afford a market for them in their more advanced state of settlement, agriculture, and commerce. It has the advantage of Canada in some points of commerce, not only on account of the fishing-banks extending round the coast, but, that the inhabitants of this Island can make two voyages to the West Indies in the Summer, whereas from Canada only one can be made. It is well known, that the principal part of the farmers, who raise considerable crops of grain, and possess stocks of cattle, from twenty to sixty head, besides flocks of sheep, hogs, horses, &c. came to this Island with very little, and many with no property whatever. The prospect of arriving at such a situation stimulates the young farmer to encounter with pleasure, and persevering assiduity, the difficulties of his infant farm. Those, who come here with no property, generally work for others till they have acquired a little stock; and after such have began to farm, they can get assistance by working for the neighbouring farmers, till they have brought their own farms gradually forward. An infant country is by no means calculated for indolent persons, except they have some income to live on; but there is a moral certainty of an industrious person bettering his circumstances every year, with the same or less degree of labour than must of necessity be used in England, to procure a bare or scanty subsistence, with no other prospect in old age than the aid afforded him by the

parish: whereas, in such a country as this, unincumbered with tithes or taxes, and the land in its original state, at about one shilling per acre annually for ever, or farms to be purchased on easy terms, his ordinary industry will soon procure him a comfortable provision, with the satisfactory prospect of seeing his family follow his example. A large family, to a man in low circumstances, may here be very properly considered a great blessing, as they can all assist their parents to great advantage during their minority, and are under no necessity of being sent from home, and by that means frequently exposed to many vices in seeking a livelihood; on the contrary, they remain with their parents, who, to encourage them to industry, generally make them a present of a calf, or a sheep, when they are young, which, by the time they are of age to settle for themselves, will have increased to several heads; so that, with a little further assistance from the parents of a young couple, they begin on a new farm with an encouraging prospect.

Persons, with a few hundred pounds, may soon place themselves in a comfortable situation, and of course will be relieved from many of the inconveniences, which those who have no property are at first subjected to.

Some persons who have emigrated to America have been extremely disappointed, by not having, in their ideas, made a proper allowance for the difference of an infant country, compared to those scenes they have been accustomed to; others there are who read of the productions and advantages of America, but do not sufficiently consider, that if they emigrate there with little or no property, it must be by their gradual and persevering industry that they can obtain the comforts and conveniences of life.

Persons of small property, who may be desirous of emigrating to this Island for the purpose of farming, are naturally led to enquire, how they are to dispose of a family on their landing there, and the best and cheapest method of proceeding? To which it may be answered—If the person has not fixed on the spot he intends to make his residence, previous to his leaving his native country, it will be expedient, immediately on his arrival (suppose at Charlotte Town), after having obtained accommodations for his family (which will

not be difficult), to apply to some persons in the Town, who for the most part are able and ready to inform a stranger, who have lands to lease or dispose of, and the part of the Island in which they are situated. It will then be proper to go and examine the spot, or perhaps several, in order to make the best choice. There are many places to be had, where the farms front a navigable river, or a bay. In Winterbotham's History, before alluded to, is the following information, which will apply to this Island: "When a settler fixes on a spot of land, his first care is to cut down a few trees to build his log-house. A man can cut down and lop from twenty to thirty in a day, of the size proper for the purpose. These form the walls of the building. In general the log-cabins of this kind are such as half a dozen men will easily finish in three or four days (say a week) ten guineas worth of labour, thus employed, will lodge a family quite as comfortable as in the better kind of cottages in England."

Such log-houses may be enlarged, as opportunity will admit, or improved, by lining them with board, in the nature of wainscot, or lath and plaster; the outside covered with clapboards, and the roof with shingles; or, as the person is disposed, and his circumstances will admit, he may, in a future period, build a framed house, from sixty pounds to many hundreds, according to the size, and the manner in which it is finished: his first house may be then used for a cattle-house. When the person has his log-house finished, he will find it to his advantage to remove his family into it as early as possible, both for convenience and to save expence; and of course must lay in such necessaries as he thinks he shall want, according to the number of his family. He may form some estimate of a year's provision by the following prices, alluding to the Autumn of 1795: Wheat at 5s. per bushel; potatoes about 1s. 6d. per bushel; by a large quantity they have been bought for one 1s. per bushel; beef, mutton, and pork, from 3d. to 4d. per pound, according to the season of the year; fowls from 4s. to 8s. per dozen; ducks about 1s. geese about 2s. 6d. turkeys 5s. each: most people raise their own poultry. Spruce beer, and rum and water, are the general liquors that are drank here, except water and milk;

but as barley and hops grow very well, there can be no doubt but malt liquor will be more generally introduced, which will be far more beneficial to the inhabitants than the pernicious custom of drinking spirits, which is generally too prevalent in all America. Cows with calves, in the spring of the year, from 5l. to about 6l.; a pair of middling-size aged bullocks, that will weigh five or six hundred each, may be bought for 14l. to 16l. per pair. Some of the bullocks on this Island have weighed upwards of a thousand weight. Ewes with lambs, in the spring of the year, about 20s. to a guinea; sows with pig, according to their size, from 20s. to 40s. The above prices are in the currency of the Island: if one-tenth is deducted from these sums, it will reduce it to sterling. It will be advisable, that the new settler purchases a few poultry, a cow or two, and a sow, as soon as he goes to his farm, by which means he will have eggs, butter, and milk for the family; if the farm is an entire woodland farm, the cows will find sufficient food in the woods, in the Summer and Autumn, and come regularly home to be milked, by keeping the calves up, and giving them a portion of the milk. If there should be no marsh ground to the farm, where fodder may be cut for the Winter, the new settler will be obliged to buy hay till he can raise some from the woodland. When he has purchased these necessities, he has then to encounter with the most difficult part of his farm, which is to begin to clear away the woods. This labour is differently pursued, according to the judgment of different persons: some grub up the small trees and underwood by the roots; these are burnt on the ground; and the large trees they girdle, by cutting a rim of the bark round the tree, which kills it, and lets in the sun to the ground; they then plant potatoes and grain between the trees: but, for the most part, the inhabitants cut all the trees down from two to three feet above the ground, and cut them into ten or twelve feet lengths, and pile and burn them. But some think the best way is, to take a crop or two at most off the ground, and then lay it down to grass; and in a few years, the roots of the stumps will get sufficiently rotten, so that a man or two, with two pair of bullocks, and a chain fixed round the tops of the stumps, will get up as many in a day as they would in a month

were they to attempt it when the stumps were green. The new farmer should aim to be there as early in the Spring as possible, by which means he may get sufficient land cleared, at least to get a good crop of potatoes in the ground, and other vegetables: the potatoes would not only serve his family, but he might have plenty to keep a sufficient number of hogs through the Winter, so as to supply him with meat the ensuing year. He might likewise sow some wheat in the Autumn between the stumps; some hoe it in, others only harrow it in; and some there are that will plough between the stumps with a short one-handled plough; and good crops have been produced by either method. If the person has no sons of his own, capable of assisting him in the labour, he would do well to take a stout boy or two with him, who might be indented to him till they were twenty-one years of age: these boys would be of great service to a new settler. It is recommended to new settlers, to plant an orchard as early as possible, as the young trees will be growing while the stumps are decaying. This has been much neglected by the early settlers, only a few of late years have attended to it. Many of the inhabitants who live in log-houses, as above described, seem to feel but little emulation to build themselves better habitations, although they have abundance of property, and opportunity for the purpose. This may arise either from habit, or from their having been accustomed to small cottages in the country they have left. It is recommended to persons who may emigrate to this Island, to bring their bedding and kitchen utensils, and as much wearing apparel as convenient, as the prices on the articles which are brought from England are much advanced, especially in war-time.

In WINTERBOTHAM'S History of America are the following Remarks, vol. III. p. 299, 300, 301, 302.

"What are the general inducements to quit Europe for the purpose of settling in America?—To this Query we shall, *without hesitation*, reply, that the first and principal inducement to an European to quit his native country for America, is **THE TOTAL ABSENCE OF ANXIETY RESPECTING THE FUTURE SUCCESS OF A FAMILY.**

" In England the young man flies to prostitution,
 " for fear of the expense of a family establishment,
 " and the, *more than probable*, extravagance of a
 " wife; celibacy is a part of prudence; it is openly
 " commended, and as steadily practised as the voice of
 " nature will allow. The married man, whose passions
 " have been stronger, whose morals have been
 " less callous, or whose interest has furnished motives
 " to matrimony, doubts whether each child be not a
 " misfortune, and looks upon his offspring with a
 " melancholy kind of affection, that embitters some
 " of the otherwise most pleasurable moments of his
 " life. There are exceptions to this, from great suc-
 " cess in the pursuits of the father; there are ex-
 " ceptions from stronger degrees of parental affection;
 " and the more sanguine look forward with stronger
 " hope: but we have seen too much not to be sa-
 " tisfied of the perfect truth of this *general* position.
 " We do not care what may be the situation in life of
 " the parents, or the rank to which they belong; from
 " the labourer at six or seven shillings per week, and
 " many thousands of such there are in Great Britain,
 " to the peer of twenty-five thousand pounds per an-
 " num; through many intermediate ranks we have had
 " too frequent occasion to observe this melancholy
 " fact.

" In the former instance, the labourer consoles him-
 " self, with tears in his eyes, for the loss of his chil-
 " dren, because *he has one or more or less to provide for*;
 " and, in the second instance, his lordship retrenches
 " his pleasures, *because he has a large family*.

" In America, particularly out of the large towns,
 " no man of moderate desires feels anxious about a
 " family. In the country, where the mass of the peo-
 " ple dwell, every man feels the increase of his family
 " to be the increase of his riches: and no farmer
 " doubts about the facility of providing for his chil-
 " dren as comfortably as they have lived, where land
 " is so cheap and so fertile, where society is so much
 " on an equality, and where the prodigious increase of
 " population, from natural and accidental causes, and
 " the improving state of every part of the country,
 " furnishes a market for whatever superfluous produce
 " he chuses to raise, without presenting incessantly
 " that temptation to artificial expense and extrava-

"gant competition so common and so ruinous in European countries.

" In Great-Britain, PERPETUAL EXERTION, INCES-SANT, UNREMITTING INDUSTRY, DAILY DEPRIVATION OF THE COMFORTS OF LIFE, and anxious attention to minute frugality, are almost incumbent on a man of moderate fortune, and in the middle class of life : and the probabilities of ultimate success are certainly against a large family. In England, no man has a right, calculating upon the common chances, to expect that five or six children shall all succeed, however virtuous or industrious they may be.

" In America it is otherwise : you may reasonably reckon upon a comfortable settlement, according to your situation in life, for every part of a family, however numerous. There is nothing in European countries equivalent to the taking off this weight upon the mind of a father of a family. It is felt in the occurrences of every day. Mr. Cooper remarks, he has seen with pleasure the countenance of an European emigrant, in America, brighten up on this very comfortable reflection ; a reflection which consoles even for loss of friends, and exile from a native country.

" In England, if a man has been pecuniarily unfortunate the eager crowd press on and trample over him, and, once down, he is kept down. In America, a false step is not irretrievable, there is room to get up again ; and the less unfortunate stumbler looks round at leisure, and without dismay, for some more profitable path to be pursued. In England, every employment is full, we are pressed and elbowed on all sides : in America, every employment has room for industry, and for many years almost every species of industry must be successful."

Impartial persons, will not consider the above remarks, of Winterbotham, as exceeding the truth ; for it is a well-known fact, that a great number of appearances in life, from a kind of necessity, are carrying on their different employments with the most distressing anxiety ; and if a few, among the many, surmount these difficulties, after many years perseverance they may, at last, be so fortunate as to acquire a sufficient sum of money to enable them to put all, or most of their children, in the same perplexing situation.

In BUCHAN's highly-esteemed Treatise on Domestic Medicine, are the following Remarks, treating on the Laborious and Sedentary.

"Though nothing can be more contrary to the nature of man than a sedentary life, yet this class comprehends the far greater part of the species. Almost the whole female world, and, in manufacturing countries, the major part of the males may be reckoned sedentary. Agriculture, the first and most healthful of all employments, is now followed by few who are able to carry on any other business. But those who imagine that the culture of the earth is not sufficient to employ all its inhabitants, are greatly mistaken. An ancient Roman, we are told, could maintain his family from the produce of one acre of ground: so might a modern Briton, if he would be contented to live like a Roman. This shews what an immense increase of inhabitants Britain might admit of, and all of them live by the culture of the ground. Agriculture is the great source of domestic riches. Where it is neglected, whatever wealth may be imported from abroad, poverty and misery will abound at home. Such is, and ever will be, the fluctuating state of trade and manufactures, that thousands of people may be in full employment to-day, and in beggary to-morrow. This can never happen to those who cultivate the ground; they can eat the fruit of their labour, and can always, by industry, obtain at least the necessaries of life.

"Labouring the ground is every way conducive to health. It not only gives exercise to every part of the body, but the very smell of the earth, and fresh herbs, revives and cheers the spirits, whilst the perpetual prospect of something coming to maturity delights and entertains the mind. We are so formed as to be always pleased with somewhat in prospect, however distant or however trivial. Hence the happiness that most men feel, in planting, sowing, building, &c. These seem to have been the chief employments of the more early ages; and when Kings and Conquerors cultivated the ground, there is reason to believe that they knew as well wherein true happiness consisted as we do."

This is not only true in theory, but it is confirmed by daily observation, that many eminent persons in great cities, after they have been giving their attention to business the greater part of their lives, are generally retiring to these rural employments, as most congenial to human felicity; especially to a religious mind, which may enjoy such satisfaction in contemplating the wisdom and goodness of God, in the ordinary operations of the works of nature, in such innocent and harmless simplicity, compared with the artifice and deceptive contrivance which the mind is engaged in, in making and vending most of the works of art, which, through the numerous competitors of every calling, operate nearly as forcibly as the laws of necessity; so that we "may be seeking

death in the errors of life, and bringing upon ourselves destruction with the works of our hands."

Since the foregoing description was published, notwithstanding the circumstances of the late war, which were a great impediment to emigration, yet the natural advantages of Prince Edward Island are such, that by the ordinary increase of population, and some emigration, the number of inhabitants are now supposed to be about twenty thousand.

The low price of Land in new Countries, generally advances in proportion to the demand of an increasing population, especially those Lands situate near navigable Water. The price of Land, Farming Stock, and Provisions is somewhat raised since the publishing of the above account; yet good Land may now be purchased at from fifteen shillings to a guinea per acre, according to its situation; and Farms at no time have been rented at lower than one shilling, nor higher than two shillings, sterling, per acre. Some proprietors now let their Land in its natural state, the first year at three pence per acre, and to raise three pence per acre annually, till it comes to eighteen pence, sterling, per acre, and so to remain for ever. The current prices for cattle and provisions for the year 1818, may be averaged as follows:—A good serviceable horse for draft or the saddle, about 18l.; a milch cow and calf from 6l. to 8l.; a pair of four-year old oxen, about 16l.; ewes with lambs 25s. pigs, in abundance, in proportion to their size; beef, mutton, and pork, from 4d. to 6d. per lb. according to the season of the year, and the demand for home consumption or exportation. Butter, about 1s. per lb.; wheat, about 7s.; barley 4s.; oats 2s. 6d.; and potatoes 1s. 8d. per Winchester bushel. The Trade of the Island has also much increased. From forty to fifty sail of shipping have been annually loaded with timber for Great Britain these some years past; and there has likewise been a considerable export of cattle, sheep, lumber, grain, and potatoes, to the neighbouring Colonies of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, and some to the West Indies, in vessels built and owned by persons on the Island. This occasions a considerable demand and employment for industrious labourers, both in farming, and loading the Timber Ships, &c. and more especially for those who can use the axe—an art which is very soon acquired.

There have also some Fisheries been established, for which business this Island is peculiarly adapted.

Since the increase of Population, several Dissenting Ministers have come to reside on the Island, and Meeting Houses have been built for their accommodation, which are numerous attended. Those of the Established Church, Dissenters, and Roman Catholics, appear to live in good neighbourhood, in being ready to render mutual assistance to each other.

FINIS.

ction

ding
ment
land
ome
o be

es in
ally
and,
the
be
ding
wer
cre.
first
cre
d so
ons
ood
cow
il.;
to
lb
me
eat,
per
uch
illy
and
ep,
ova
els
a
rs,
ore
ery

ich

ers
en
ed.
an
to